of lands, how is it that the Government are yet taking time to consider the question of reallotting the lands to the landless poor and the Harijans? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" Sir, as I said already, this assignment was made in 1950 and now that a petition has been received, the matter is under the consideration of the Government."

Grant of loans to Burma evacuees.

* 292 Q.—SRI A. APPU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether a special staff has been working in the district of Malabar for collecting loans granted to the dependants of Malayalees stranded in Burma and F.M.S. during the Great World War II ;

(b) what is the total amount granted as loan in the district of Malabar ;

(c) what amount has been collected from them so far by the special staff ; and

(d) what is the total amount spent by the Government towards the pay and the travelling allowance of the special staff from the very beginning to date?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Rs. 1,24,44,890.

" (c) Rs. 2,42,012–4–0 up to the end of February 1953.

" (d) Rs. 1,76,579–5–0. (The entire expenditure is borne by the Government of India.)"

SRI A. APPU :—" Sir, how long has this staff been working? And, Sir, in view of the fact that the actual amount spent is more than the amount collected by the staff, may I know whether the Government consider it worth while continuing the staff? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Rules have been framed for writing off of amounts in cases where the financial condition of the persons who have taken loans is such that they are unable to re-pay the loans. As a matter of fact the Government of India have stated, that we have to concentrate our attention only in cases where the loans are Rs. 1,000 and more. With regard to other cases we are not so particular and the conditions also are, we have to write off where the evacuee is untraceable, where he has no immovable property either in India or Burma, or the evacuee died leaving no movable or immovable property and so on. We take all these facts into consideration."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that these amounts were given more as a relief measure than as a loan, will the Government discontinue the recovery proceedings? "

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THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I do not accept the proposition of the hon. Member that it is not a loan. In fact, it is a loan."

Sugarcane Research Stations.

* 293 *Q.*—SRI K. GOVINDA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to wind up the Sugarcane Research Sections in the various agriculture farms in our State;

(*b*) if so, why; and

(*c*) how many employees are likely to be affected by this step?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether there is any cut in the Budget provision in regard to the various sugarcane research stations in the State? "

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" Notice, Sir."

Alleged death of a student due to snake-bite in Harijan Hostel, Nuzvid taluk.

* 294 *Q.*—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a student in the Harijan Hostel of Gollapalli, Nuzvid taluk, had a snake-bite either in June or July 1952;

(*b*) whether the students of the hostel represented to the Government that the hostel building is not properly maintained; and

(*c*) if so, what action the Government have taken thereon?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) No; he is reported to have died of lung trouble.

" (*b*) & (*c*) No. However, as the building is in need of repairs, the Secretary of the hostel has been instructed to carry out necessary repairs to the building."

Construction of a reservoir across Sarada river, Visakhapatnam district.

* 295 *Q.*—SRI K. GOVINDA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to construct a reservoir on the Sarada river at Muddurti in Chodavaram taluk, Visakhapatnam district;

(*b*) if so, when it will be taken up;